

## BOOK REVIEW

JAMES H. EVERITT, ROBERT I. LONARD, AND CHRISTOPHER R. LITTLE. 2007. **Weeds in South Texas and Northern Mexico: A Guide to Identification.** (ISBN 978-089672-614-7, pbk.). Texas Tech University Press, Box 41037, Lubbock, Texas 79409-1037, U.S.A. (**Orders:** www.ttup.ttu.edu, ttup@ttu.edu, 1-806-742-2892; 1-806-742-2979 fax). \$19.95, 222 pp., 6" × 9".

## Contents:

- Preface
- Introduction
- Class Polypodiopsida (Ferns)
- Class Magnoliopsida (Dicots)
- Class Liliopsida (Monocots)
- Appendix 1: Toxic Plants and Federally Listed Noxious Weeds of South Texas
- Appendix 2: Selected Pathogens and Insect Pests of Sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*) in Texas
- Appendix 3: Selected Pathogens and Insect Pests of Giant Reed (*Arundo donax*) in Texas
- Appendix 4: Selected Pathogens and Insect Pests of Bermudagrass (*Cynodon dactylon*) in Texas
- Appendix 5: Selected Pathogens and Insect Pests of Annual Bluegrass (*Poa annua*) in Texas
- Appendix 6: Selected Pathogens and Insect Pests of Johnsongrass (*Sorghum halepense*) in Texas
- Appendix 7: Selected Chemical and Cultural Controls of Some Monocot (M) and Dicot (D) Weeds of South Texas and Mexico
- Glossary
- Literature Cited
- Index

Any book on weeds must perfunctorily start with a definition of "weed," and this one does that, encompassing the usual criteria. In fact, of course, a number of these weeds are wildflowers cherished or at least respected by native plant enthusiasts: *Cirsium texana*, *Pluchea purpurascens*, *Oenothera speciosa* and others. The text hints at reasons for such plants to be so designated though not establishing full justification. After the one fern (*Salvinia molesta*), the text arrangement is by family, dicots and monocots mixed, each species with a color photograph and apt description—except that there is no indication of plant dimensions, size of flower or leaf, or the height to which the plant normally grows. Despite this deficit, the guide will be quite helpful. Perhaps most useful is the section on Poaceae, the majority of which are pervasive throughout the state and adjacent areas.

The excellent photographs and superior descriptions for some of these confusing species are more than adequate even for a beginning amateur. Appendices name pathogens (viral and fungal), nematodes, and insect pests of some of the plants that particularly need to be controlled in lawn and garden care as well as for agricultural management. This little guide has useful relevance throughout the state of Texas and adjacent areas.—Joann Karges, *Texas Christian University Library (retired), Fort Worth, Texas, U.S.A.*